

RESTRICTED

HEADQUARTERS 80TH INFANTRY DIVISION
APO 80, U. S. Army

GENERAL ORDERS)

NUMBER 81)

22 March 1945.

SECTION

- I - Award of Bronze Star, Posthumously.
- II - Award of Bronze Star (Oak Leaf Cluster).
- III and IV - Award of Bronze Star.
- V - Award of Purple Heart (Oak Leaf Cluster).
- VI - Award of Purple Heart.

I. AWARD OF BRONZE STAR, POSTHUMOUSLY: By direction of the President, under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, dated 22 September 1943, as amended, the Bronze Star Medal is awarded, posthumously, to the following named personnel:

D Edward W. Serafin, 33354613, Pfc, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Luxembourg on 24 December 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. In the vicinity of Rehmen, Luxembourg, on 24 December 1944, Pfc Serafin, while serving as a heavy machine gunner in support of attacking rifle troops, was subjected to heavy sniper and mortar fire. Disregarding his own personal safety, he continued to man his gun so skillfully that he annihilated an attacking squad and denied the enemy the use of an important observation post. Pfc Serafin's courage, initiative, and aggressiveness are commensurate with the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Pennsylvania.

6 John Watts, 34898230, Sgt, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Luxembourg on 24 December 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 24 December 1944, Sgt Watts emplaced his machine gun squad to cover a road block near Heidersheidgrund, Luxembourg. Observing the approach of an enemy armored car, he ordered his men to hold fire until he signalled. By coolly waiting until six of the enemy had dismounted and were about to pass the roadblock, Sgt Watts was able to kill all of the enemy and to destroy their vehicle. Sgt Watts' courage, initiative, and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from South Carolina.

II. AWARD OF BRONZE STAR (OAK LEAF CLUSTER): By direction of the President, under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, dated 22 September 1943, as amended, in addition to the Bronze Star Medal previously awarded, a bronze Oak Leaf Cluster is awarded the following named personnel:

Edward J. Klaus, 32894835, Pfc, MD, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Germany on 20 February 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. During the attack against Hummerdingen, Germany, a heavy enemy artillery concentration destroyed an American tank and a nearby anti-tank gun position. All but two of the wounded men were able to move out of the impact area. Pfc Klaus, an aid man, and a companion, drove to the wounded men and, despite the artillery falling in the area,

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extracted one man from the tank and carried the other from his foxhole to their vehicle and evacuated them, thereby successfully saving the lives of their two wounded comrades. Pfc Klaus' courage, aggressiveness, and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from New York:

C Phillip N. Ryan, 35408675, T Sgt, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in France on 16 November 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. During a rifle company attack on Chemery, France, on 16 November 1944, T Sgt Ryan performed the duties of weapons platoon leader in a superior manner. The inspiring and skillful manner in which he led his troops over terrain exposed to intense enemy fire so encouraged his men that they reached and consolidated their objective with a minimum of casualties. T Sgt Ryan's courage, leadership, and devotion to duty exemplify the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Ohio.

C Elbert L. Sicking, 35358844, S Sgt, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in France on 16 November 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. During a rifle company attack on Chemery, France, on 16 November 1944, S Sgt Sicking, as section leader of a machine gun section, performed his duties in a superior manner. The tactically sound manner in which he maneuvered his machine guns made possible the rapid and safe advance of the company. S Sgt Sicking's disregard for personal safety, courage, and leadership are in keeping with the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Indiana.

III. AWARD OF BRONZE STAR: By direction of the President, under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, dated 22 September 1943, as amended, the Bronze Star Medal is awarded the following named personnel:

Arthur Berkowitz, 42138394, Pvt, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Germany on 22 February 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 22 February 1945, during an attack on Mettendorf, Germany, Pvt Berkowitz, an assistant machine gunner, took over the machine gun when the first gunner was wounded by direct artillery fire. Disregarding his own safety, he advanced to a forward slope of the hill and by accurate fire permitted his company to advance. Remaining in this exposed position, he gave excellent supporting fire until wounded. Pvt Berkowitz's courage, aggressiveness, and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from New York.

H Roy E. Beeso, 36688987, S Sgt, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Luxembourg on 29 December 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. After leading his machine gun squad through heavy enemy artillery and mortar fire to a defensive position near Ringel, Luxembourg, on 29 December 1944, S Sgt Beeso directed such effective fire on the enemy that the attack was halted. During the engagement S Sgt Beeso, disregarding his own safety, went to the aid of several wounded riflemen. His courage, leadership, and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Illinois.

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E Casimir T. Capik, 32592656, T Sgt, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Luxembourg on 23 December 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. After carrying a wounded member of his platoon to safety through a heavy artillery barrage which preceded an enemy attack against Heiderscheid, Luxembourg, on 23 December 1944, T Sgt Capik organized his platoon in the path of the enemy. So skillfully did he deploy his men that they were able to destroy two enemy halftracks and drive back the attack. T Sgt Capik's courage, tactical skill, and devotion to duty exemplify the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from New Jersey.

C PAUL J. DURAND, 01293699, 1st Lt, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in France on 16 November 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. During a rifle company attack on Chemery, France, on 16 November 1944, Lt Durand performed the duties of platoon leader in a superior manner. The inspiring and skillful manner in which he led his troops over terrain exposed to intense enemy fire so encouraged his men that they reached and consolidated their objective with a minimum of casualties. Lt Durand's courage, leadership, and devotion to duty exemplify the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Wisconsin.

E WALTER H. HOLLE, 01062383, 2d Lt, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Luxembourg on 29 December 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. During an enemy attack against Ringel, Luxembourg, on 29 December 1944, Lt Holle and his platoon were outflanked by a numerically superior enemy. Organizing every available man in a perimeter defense, Lt Holle so encouraged the men by his own example that the enemy was put to rout and suffered severe losses. His courage, aggressiveness, and devotion to duty are commensurate with the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Illinois.

E James H. Hommon, 33846144, Pfc, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Luxembourg on 29 December 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 29 December 1944, at Ringel, Luxembourg, Pfc Hommon and a comrade were defending the rear approach to the company position and were sharing the same foxhole. A surprise enemy attack was halted by their accurate fire, but one of the enemy assaulted their position, jumped into their foxhole, and struck his companion with a rifle butt. Promptly killing the attacker, he again directed his fire against the enemy supported by his recovered but dazed comrade. His aggressiveness, initiative, and courage are commensurate with the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Maryland.

148 **E** Gaiz Kardos, 33367721, Pfc, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in France on 17 September 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 17 September 1944, Pfc Kardos, while driving on a reconnaissance mission near St Genevieve, France, was instructed to wait with his vehicle while the two officers with him continued on foot. Disregarding heavy artillery fire which began to fall about his position, he drove his vehicle to a place of safety. Although small arms fire harassed him while moving, by skillful driving he prevented damage to the vehicle. Pfc

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Kardos' courage and devotion to duty saved valuable property and exemplify the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Pennsylvania.

C Stephen C. Mace, 33349092, T Sgt, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in France on 16 November 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. During a rifle company attack on Chenery, France, on 16 November 1944, T Sgt Mace performed the duties of platoon leader in a superior manner. The inspiring and skillful manner in which he led his troops over terrain exposed to intense enemy fire so encouraged his men that they reached and consolidated their objective with a minimum of casualties. T Sgt Mace's courage, leadership, and devotion to duty exemplify the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Pennsylvania.

James W. McGregor, 35313137, Tec 4, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic service in France and Luxembourg during the period 26 August 1944, to 15 January 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. Tec 4 McGregor distinguished himself during the period 26 August 1944, to 15 January 1945, in France and Luxembourg while serving in an infantry regiment as radio operator and code clerk in the Message Center. Always willing to assume additional responsibilities, on numerous occasions in the absence of the Message Center Chief, he performed this job in a superior manner and proved himself invaluable to his organization. On 5 January 1945, while on duty near Niederfeuler, Luxembourg, Tec 4 McGregor was hit by shell fragments but refused to leave his post until the enemy artillery had ceased firing and the more seriously wounded had been evacuated. His sincerity, courage, and constant devotion to duty are in keeping with the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Ohio.

Harvey F. Meyers, 35386862, Tec 5, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Luxembourg on 10 February 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. During the attack across the Sauer River into the Siegfried Line, on 10 February 1945, it became imperative that communication wire be laid into Dillingen, Luxembourg, so that observers there could adjust fire on enemy positions. Tec 5 Meyers, and two companions, were attempting to establish these communications when severe enemy fire wounded one of his comrades. Disregarding the enemy fire and the warning of the communications officer, Tec 5 Meyers and the remaining wireman, picking up a reel of wire, advanced over the exposed terrain, successfully establishing contact with the artillery observers. Tec 5 Meyers' courage and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from West Virginia.

IV. Sections IV through VI published as an extract.

By command of Major General McBRIDE:

OFFICIAL:

J. W. Trone
J. W. TRONE
Lt Colonel, AGD,
Adjutant General.

S. P. WALKER
Colonel, Cavalry,
Chief of Staff.

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HEADQUARTERS 80TH INFANTRY DIVISION
APO 80, U. S. Army

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IV. AWARD OF BRONZE STAR: By direction of the President, under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, dated 22 September 1943, as amended, the Bronze Star Medal is awarded the following named personnel:

Cecil H. Owensby, 18032610, Pvt, FA, Army of the United States. For heroic service in Luxembourg and Germany during the period 27 January 1945, to 12 February 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. Pvt Owensby distinguished himself during the period 27 January 1945, to 12 February 1945, in Luxembourg and Germany, while serving as driver for a liaison section and as a volunteer radio operator and wireman by performing his duties in a superior manner. On one occasion, during a six day attack through the Siegfried Line near Wallendorf, Germany, he voluntarily exposed himself to heavy enemy artillery and small arms fire in order to complete his mission and return with necessary supplies. The courage, determination, and constant devotion to duty displayed by Pvt Owensby are commensurate with the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Oklahoma.

G Kenneth E. Palm, 33276301, Pfc, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in France on 29 November 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 29 November 1944, the company in which Pfc Palm served as a rifleman established a defensive position on Hill 315 near Ober Homberg, France. While moving into position, a well concealed enemy machine gun severely wounded the company's first sergeant. Despite the wounded man's protest and the extreme danger from enemy fire, Pfc Palm recruited aid and carried the first sergeant to safety. Pfc Palm's courage and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Pennsylvania.

Edward A. Parzick, 31288390, Pfc, MD, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Germany on 20 February 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. During the attack against Hummerdinger, Germany, a heavy enemy artillery concentration destroyed an American tank and a nearby anti-tank gun position. All but two of the wounded men were able to move out of the impact area. Pfc Parzick, an aid man, and a companion drove to the wounded men and, despite the artillery falling in the area, extracted one man from the tank and carried the other from his foxhole to their vehicle and evacuated them, thereby successfully saving the lives of the two men. Pfc Parzick's courage, aggressiveness, and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Massachusetts.

D Edward Perdue, 35437731, Pfc, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Luxembourg on 7 and 8 January 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. During the defense of Dahl, Luxembourg, on 7 and 8 January 1945, Pfc Perdue, a company messenger,

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volunteered to keep intact the extensive communication net of his heavy weapons company. Severe enemy artillery and rocket fire repeatedly destroyed the communication wires. Pfc Perdue, disregarding the danger, worked night and day in exposed positions to find and repair breaks in the lines. His courage and unhesitating devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from West Virginia.

D Eucl S. Potts, 38209783, Pfc, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Luxembourg on 7 January 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. During an enemy counterattack against Dahl, Luxembourg, on 7 January 1945, Pfc Potts, a driver in a mortar platoon, volunteered to drive over slippery roads to obtain sufficient ammunition to use against the enemy attack. In spite of hazardous weather conditions and enemy artillery fire, Pfc Potts successfully accomplished this vitally important mission. His courage, initiative, and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Arkansas.

D Paul Puleio, 39439813, S Sgt, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Luxembourg on 7 and 8 January 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. During the determined defense of Dahl, Luxembourg, on the 7th and 8th of January 1945, S Sgt Puleio, in spite of the heavy enemy rocket and artillery fire directed at his position, continued to fire his mortars effectively against the attacking enemy. His skill and daring made it possible to deliver an accurate and deadly concentration among the enemy troops. S Sgt Puleio's courage, leadership, and devotion to duty exemplify the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Maryland.

C FRANKLIN C. RETCHLESS, 01061524, 1st Lt (then 2d Lt), Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Luxembourg on 14 January 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 14 January 1945, near Dahl, Luxembourg, Lt Retchless, a platoon leader, voluntarily led a litter squad to within seventy five yards of enemy guns to evacuate a seriously wounded soldier. Despite five hours of continuous enemy fire he persevered in his mission successfully rendering first aid and evacuating his wounded comrades. Lt Retchless' courage, aggressiveness, and devotion to duty exemplify the finest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from New York.

146 LEMUEL J. RICHARDS, 01324652, 1st Lt (then 2d Lt), Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Luxembourg on 23 January 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. Realizing the need for communication with a rifle company which had succeeded in liberating part of the town of Kautenbach, Luxembourg, on 23 January 1945, Lt Richards personally directed the laying of telephone wire to the company command post. Even though all approaches to the town were under enemy observation and heavy shell fire, he succeeded in establishing contact by phone with the embattled company, often finding and repairing breaks in the wire himself. Lt Richards' courage, leadership, and initiative are in keeping with the highest ideals of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from New York.

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C BERT SANTORA, 01296586, 1st Lt, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in France on 16 November 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. 1st Lt Santora, as executive officer of a rifle company, from 7 August 1944, to 27 November 1944, has performed his duties in a superior manner. Taking command of a platoon on 16 November 1944, near Chemery, France, he led his men over difficult terrain and through intense artillery fire to reach and consolidate his objective with a minimum of casualties. Lt Santora's leadership, courage, and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from New York.

G JOSEPH K. STRICKLAND, 0536837, 2d Lt, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in France on 8 October 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 8 October 1944, after capturing Hill 240 near Serrieres, France, intermittent enemy artillery fire hindered all attempts to clear the area of enemy mines. Lt Strickland, Ammunition and Pioneer Platoon Leader, with utter disregard for his own personal safety, organized and personally aided his men in clearing all the mined area during the night. Lt Strickland's initiative, courage, and devotion to duty exemplify the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from South Carolina.

Hg 2 William J. Teliska, 32661443, Sgt (then Pfc), Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Luxembourg on 24 December 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. On 24 December 1944, during a pre-dawn enemy attack against Heiderscheid, Luxembourg, Sgt Teliska, a truck driver, voluntarily removed the .50 caliber machine gun from his truck and, emplacing it on the third floor of a building, effectively fired on enemy troops who had penetrated to within one hundred yards of the battalion command post. Despite heavy enemy fire on his position he remained at his post until the enemy withdrew. Sgt Teliska's courage, aggressiveness, and devotion to duty exemplify the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from New York.

Francis P. Walsh, 33619428, Pfc, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in Luxembourg on 10 February 1945, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. During the attack across the Sauer River into the Siegfried Line on 10 February 1945, it became imperative that communications wire be laid into Dillingen, Luxembourg, so that observers there could adjust fire on enemy positions. Pfc Walsh and two companions were attempting to establish these communications when severe enemy fire wounded one of his comrades. Disregarding the enemy fire and the warning of the communications officer, Pfc Walsh and the remaining wireman, picking up a reel of wire, advanced over the exposed terrain, successfully establishing contact with the artillery observers. Pfc Walsh's courage and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Pennsylvania.

C Harry Weston, 33320392, T Sgt, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in France on 16 November 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. During a rifle company attack on Chemery, France, on 16 November 1944, T Sgt Weston performed the duties of

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platoon leader in a superior manner. The inspiring and skillful manner in which he led his troops over terrain exposed to intense enemy fire so encouraged his men that they reached and consolidated their objective with a minimum of casualties. T Sgt Weston's courage, leadership, and devotion to duty exemplify the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Pennsylvania.

G EUGENE WILCOX, 01290512, 1st Lt, Inf, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in France on 1 November 1944, in connection with military operations against an enemy of the United States. In an attack on Abaucourt, France, on 1 November 1944, Lt Wilcox led his platoon so skillfully that he overran the enemy positions and occupied the objective much in advance of the platoons on his right and left. Quickly perceiving the situation, he attacked to the flanks, thereby relieving the adjacent units and capturing forty five of the enemy. Lt Wilcox's initiative, courage, and devotion to duty exemplify the highest traditions of the armed forces of the United States. Entered military service from Kentucky.

V. AWARD OF PURPLE HEART (OAK LEAF CLUSTER): By direction of the President, under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, dated 22 September 1943, as amended, in addition to the Purple Heart previously awarded, a bronze Oak Leaf Cluster is awarded the following named personnel for wounds received as a result of enemy action in Germany on dates indicated:

<u>RANK AND NAME</u>	<u>ASN</u>	<u>ARM OR SERVICE</u>	<u>DATE</u>
Pfc Harrison W. Albright Jr.	39529978	Inf	18 Mar 45
Sgt Michael R. Lesko	33104318	Inf	18 Mar 45
Pvt James G. Matthews	34391463	MD	19 Mar 45

VI. AWARD OF PURPLE HEART: By direction of the President, under the provisions of Army Regulations 600-45, dated 22 September 1943, as amended, the Purple Heart is awarded the following named personnel for wounds received as a result of enemy action in Germany on dates indicated:

Pvt Quinton J. Howell	34996802	Inf	16 Mar 45
2D LT HARRISON L. GOODSPEED JR	01328028	Inf	16 Mar 45
T-Sgt Samuel Austin	14021348	Inf	16 Mar 45
Pvt Reuben Schock	39622483	Inf	16 Mar 45
Pfc John E. Clare	42095589	Inf	16 Mar 45
Pvt John P. Firestone	33891809	Inf	16 Mar 45
Pvt Emanuel J. Pinto	32909173	Inf	18 Mar 45
Pvt Charles Snodgrass	34928568	Inf	18 Mar 45
Pfc Stanley J. Sitarz	35052671	Inf	18 Mar 45
Tec 3 Walter E. Schmehl	33185088	MD	19 Mar 45
Tec 4 Alex Lesonick	33287929	MD	19 Mar 45

By command of Major General McBRIDE:

OFFICIAL:

J. W. Trone
J. W. TRONE
Lt Colonel, AGD,
Adjutant General.

S. P. WALKER
Colonel, Cavalry,
Chief of Staff.

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